

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 4 and amend claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 12 and 17 as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating renal functions, which comprises measuring the amount of megsin protein in a biological specimen by an antigen-antibody reaction using an anti-megsin protein antibody.
2. (Currently Amended) The method for evaluating renal functions of claim 1, which comprises measuring the amount of megsin protein in a~~the~~ biological specimen, and comparing it with the amount of megsin protein ~~amount~~ found in a normal specimen.
3. (Original) The method for evaluating renal functions of claim 1, wherein the biological specimen is urine.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) The method for evaluating renal functions of claim ~~4~~¹, wherein the anti-megsin protein antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
6. (Currently Amended) A reagent for diagnosing renal functions, which comprises ~~the~~ an anti-megsin protein antibody.
7. (Original) The reagent for diagnosing renal functions of claim 6, wherein the anti-megsin protein antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
8. (Original) A granule for detecting megsin protein in a biological specimen, wherein the granule comprises a solid granule to the surface of which an anti-megsin protein antibody is bound.
9. (Original) The granule for detecting megsin protein of claim 8, wherein the solid granule is magnetic.

10. (Original) The granule for detecting megsin protein of claim 8, wherein the relative density of the solid granule is not smaller than 1.

11. (Original) The granule for detecting megsin protein of claim 8, wherein the anti-megsin protein antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting megsin protein in a biological specimen, comprising the following steps of:

(i) contacting the granule ~~for detecting megsin protein of claim 8~~ with the biological specimen, ~~said granule comprising a solid granule to the surface of which an anti-megsin protein antibody is bound;~~

(ii) ~~contacting the second anti-megsin protein antibody bound to a marker molecule with said granule for detecting megsin protein to which the biological specimen was contacted~~ with a marker molecule having a second anti-megsin protein antibody bound thereto; and,

(iii) detecting the marker molecule bound to the megsin protein through the second anti-megsin protein antibody.

13. (Original) The method for detection of claim 12, wherein the first anti-megsin protein antibody and the second anti-megsin protein antibody are both monoclonal antibodies.

14. (Original) The method for detection of claim 13, wherein the first anti-megsin protein antibody and the second anti-megsin protein antibody are antibodies having different recognition sites.

15. (Original) The method for detection of claim 12, wherein the biological specimen is urine.

16. (Original) The method for detection of claim 12, wherein the biological specimen is blood.

17. (Currently Amended) A kit for detecting megsin proteins, which comprises the following elements:

(a) ~~magnetic solid granules to which anti-megsin protein antibodies can be bound~~ the granule of claim 8, wherein the solid granule is magnetic, and

(b) ~~anti-megsin protein antibodies, which are bound to said magnetic solid granules in advance, or can be bound to them indirectly, and~~

(c) a magnet.

18. (Original) The kit for detecting megsin proteins of claim 17, further comprising an anti-megsin protein antibody to which a marker molecule is bound.